

In the Claims:

Claims 1 to 39 (Canceled).

1 40. (New) A metallic article comprising a metallic substrate  
2 including a protective layer adapted to provide protection  
3 against at least one of oxidation or corrosion at a  
4 substrate surface of said substrate, wherein:

5 said substrate has a nickel-based substrate  
6 composition comprising nickel or a nickel alloy and further  
7 comprising a content of aluminum representing greater than  
8 4.5 weight percent of said substrate composition;

9 said protective layer is a surface region in said  
10 substrate, extending into said substrate from said  
11 substrate surface, as formed by diffusion of at least  
12 platinum into said substrate surface; and

13 said surface region has a content of said platinum  
14 such that an integrated proportion of said platinum over an  
15 integration depth range is from 5 to 40 weight percent of  
16 an overall composition of said integration depth range,  
17 which extends from a minimum integration depth of from 0 to  
18 5  $\mu\text{m}$  into said substrate from said substrate surface, to a  
19 maximum integration depth at which a local content  
20 percentage of said platinum progressing from said substrate  
21 surface has diminished to 5 weight percent.

- 1       41. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            said integrated proportion of said platinum over said  
3            integration depth range is from 5 to 30 weight percent of  
4            said overall composition of said integration depth range.
  
- 1       42. (New) The metallic article according to claim 41, wherein  
2            said minimum integration depth is 0  $\mu\text{m}$ .
  
- 1       43. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            said integrated proportion of said platinum over said  
3            integration depth range is from 5 to 17.99 weight percent  
4            of said overall composition of said integration depth  
5            range.
  
- 1       44. (New) The metallic article according to claim 43, wherein  
2            said minimum integration depth is 0  $\mu\text{m}$ .
  
- 1       45. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            said minimum integration depth is 0  $\mu\text{m}$ .
  
- 1       46. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            said content of aluminum represents at most 10 weight  
3            percent of said substrate composition.
  
- 1       47. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            a proportion of said aluminum relative to said nickel or  
3            said nickel alloy in said surface region corresponds to a

4 proportion of said aluminum relative to said nickel or said  
5 nickel alloy in said substrate composition.

1 48. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said metallic article is a component of a gas turbine.

1 49. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said metallic article is a component of a gas turbine  
3 aircraft engine.

1 50. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said metallic article is a gas turbine blade.

1 51. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said protective layer is formed by diffusion of exclusively  
3 at least one platinum-group element including said platinum  
4 into said substrate surface.

1 52. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said protective layer is formed by diffusion of exclusively  
3 said platinum into said substrate surface.

1 53. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2 said protective layer consists of said nickel-based  
3 substrate composition and said platinum.

1       54. (New) The metallic article according to claim 40, wherein  
2            said metallic article does not include an aluminized or  
3            alitized surface layer.

1       55. (New) A metallic article including a corrosion or oxidation  
2            protective layer at a surface of a metallic substrate,  
3            wherein:

4            said substrate has a nickel-based substrate  
5            composition comprising nickel or a nickel alloy and further  
6            comprising a content of aluminum more than 4.5 weight  
7            percent of said substrate composition;

8            said protective layer is a surface region in said  
9            substrate consisting of platinum diffused into said  
10          substrate composition in said surface region from a  
11          substrate surface of said substrate;

12          said surface region, extending from said substrate  
13          surface into said substrate to a depth at which a local  
14          concentration of said platinum has diminished to 5 weight  
15          percent, has an averaged content of said platinum from 5 to  
16          17.99 weight percent of an overall composition of said  
17          surface region; and

18          said overall composition of said surface region  
19          consists of said substrate composition and said platinum.

1       56. (New) A method of producing a metallic article having an  
2            oxidation or corrosion protective layer at a substrate  
3            surface of a metallic substrate, comprising the steps:

4           a) providing said metallic substrate that has a  
5           nickel-based substrate composition comprising nickel  
6           or a nickel alloy and further comprising a content of  
7           aluminum greater than 4.5 weight percent of said  
8           substrate composition; and  
9           b) diffusing platinum into said substrate surface of said  
10          substrate so as to form said protective layer as a  
11          surface region in said substrate extending from said  
12          substrate surface to a depth in said substrate at  
13          which a local content percentage of said platinum has  
14          diminished to 5 weight percent;  
15          wherein said surface region has an integrated proportional  
16          content of said platinum being from 5 to 40 weight percent  
17          of an overall composition of said surface region.

1       **57.** (New) The method according to claim 56, wherein said  
2           integrated proportional content of said platinum is from 5  
3           to 30 weight percent of said overall composition of said  
4           surface region.

1       **58.** (New) The method according to claim 56, wherein said  
2           integrated proportional content of said platinum is from 5  
3           to 17.99 weight percent of said overall composition of said  
4           surface region.

1       **59.** (New) The method according to claim 56, wherein said  
2           diffusing step consists of diffusing exclusively platinum

3       into said substrate surface so as to form said protective  
4       layer as said surface region.

1       60. (New) The method according to claim 56, wherein said  
2       diffusing step comprises applying a platinum drossing  
3       material onto said substrate surface and then age hardening  
4       said metallic substrate with said platinum drossing  
5       material on said substrate surface, so that said platinum  
6       diffuses from said platinum drossing material through said  
7       substrate surface into said surface region of said  
8       substrate.

1       61. (New) The method according to claim 56, excluding any  
2       aluminizing or alitizing step.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]